

The Klondike Gold Rush

On August 16, 1896, an American prospector named George Carmack was fishing with his wife at the mouth of the Klondike River. Many of the other prospectors did not particularly like Carmack. They distrusted him for marrying the daughter of a local Native American chief and for his habit of telling tall tales, a habit that earned him the nickname "Lyn' George." But it is no exaggeration to say that Carmack's adventure on that morning would change the course of history.

Carmack and his wife were traveling with her brother and nephew, "Skookum" Jim Mason and Dawson Charlie, both members of the Tagish First Nation. While history often reports that it was Carmack who discovered gold at Rabbit Creek near the Klondike River, it is far more likely that Skookum Jim made the first discovery. But because Carmack was the only American in the group, he filed the claim. There was enough gold in the creek to make Carmack and his family rich beyond measure. He renamed the waterway Bonanza Creek, and, despite his newfound wealth, he spent the remainder of his days searching for gold in California and the Cascade Mountains of Washington.



So remote was Canada's Yukon that word of Carmack's discovery did not reach civilization until a year later. Upon hearing the news, 100,000 prospectors, called "stampedeers" for their frenzied rush north, headed to the Klondike in search of their own fortunes. The Canadian government required prospectors to carry a literal ton of equipment and supplies to ensure that they would survive the trip. Men carried the loads themselves, scaling treacherous routes such as the Chilkoot Trail through the mountains. The journey was so taxing that only 30,000 made it to the Klondike River, and most all of these a full year later. Worst of all, those that did make it to the Klondike found that the region had already been mined. Of the original 100,000 prospectors, only 4,000 found gold, and just a few hundred became rich. Regardless of the facts of history, the name Klondike will forever be synonymous with gold.

August Birthdays

August ushers in the final gorgeous days of Summer but it also ushered in more than a few of our Residents. We have THREE Birthday Residents on the first day ALONE! And here they all are: Cleta—August 1, Louella—August 1, Howard—August 1, Jeff—August 2, Iva Jean—August 16, Carl—August 16, Sheli Perrin—August 17, Orville—August 19, Dorothy—August 25, and Joan V--August 27. Somehow, there was still a little room left for a few famous names as well.

Jason Momoa (actor) – August 1, 1979
Barack Obama (president) – August 4, 1961
Whitney Houston (singer) – August 9, 1963
Viola Davis (actress) – August 11, 1965
Magic Johnson (athlete) – August 14, 1959
Angela Bassett (actress) – August 16, 1958
Kobe Bryant (athlete) – August 23, 1978
Kenny Rogers (Musician) – August 21, 1938
Katherine Johnson (physicist) – August 26, 1918
Buddy Hackett (comedian) – August 31, 1924

My First Rodeo



"Arizona Charlie" Meadows owned a ranch in Payson, Arizona, during the Wild West era and was a big fan of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show. Some sources suggest that Arizona Charlie was such an accomplished showman and sharpshooter that he performed with Buffalo Bill. It was likely this spirit of showmanship that inspired Arizona Charlie, in August of 1884, to corral the cowboys of the surrounding ranches for the first Payson Rodeo, a rodeo that has taken place every year since, making it the longest continuous rodeo in the world. That first rodeo was little more than a few ranchers and cowboys gathered together to show off their roping and riding skills, but it was an honest-to-goodness rodeo with fees charged to the spectators. The Payson Rodeo may have evolved with the times over the years, but Arizona Charlie's creation has influenced every rodeo to come after it.

WINDSOR MANOR

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Celebrating August Birthdays

Cleta
August 1

Louella
August 1

Howard
August 1

Jeff
August 2

Iva Jean
August 16

Carl
August 16

Sheli Perrin
August 17

Orville
August 19

Dorothy
August 25

Joan V
August 27

Lights in the Darkness

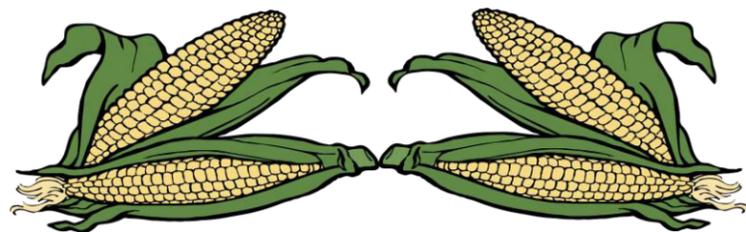
The romantic allure of lighthouses has endured for centuries. Our love of lighthouses runs so deep that we have preserved and protected 700 in the United States, and even designated August 7 as Lighthouse Day. Our affinity for lighthouses amounts to more than nostalgia for a simpler, bygone era or our attraction to picturesque rocky coastlines. As beacons of light in the treacherous darkness, lighthouses are steadfast symbols of safety and reliability, characteristics that we crave and value above all else.

One cannot appreciate the lighthouse without appreciating the solitary lighthouse keeper. Indeed, the lighthouse and its keeper are so interconnected that we cannot help but imbue the tower itself with human characteristics. Virginia Woolf, the author of *To the Lighthouse*, may have put it best when she said, "Lighthouses are endlessly suggestive signifiers of both human isolations and our ultimate connectedness to each other." For Woolf, lighthouses are monuments to the human condition: the sea of collective humanity consists of drops, individual and unique. We, like lighthouses, exist to shine our light upon others.

Throughout history, no light has shone brighter than the lighthouse known as Pharos of Alexandria. Egypt's lighthouse was both the first and largest of its kind ever built. Rising 330 feet tall, a massive mirror reflected the blazing sun by day, while raging bonfires lit its apex by night. Sailors could spy its light from 30 miles away. Modern lighthouses act as warnings of rocky coastlines or hidden reefs, but Pharos acted as a grand entrance marker to Alexandria's port, a hub of commerce, technological innovation, and free thought. Built in 280 BC, Pharos stood for 1,600 years, earning renown as a Wonder of the World and surviving three earthquakes before toppling into the sea. In a sense, all the world's lighthouses are descendants of that world wonder, and those who study lighthouses and their signal lights are proudly called *pharologists*, in memory of great Pharos.



Windsor Manor's
IOWA IN JULY



Decoding History



August 14 is Code Talkers Day, a day to recognize the invaluable contributions of the World War II Navajo code talkers. Using a complex Navajo-based code, these cryptographers encoded and transmitted

messages to American forces working in the Pacific theater. The encoded language was so unique that it was never cracked by the Japanese.

While tremendous gratitude is owed to the famed Navajo code talkers of World War II, they were not the first Native American code talkers to be employed by the U.S. military. During World War I, a small group of Cherokee soldiers from western North Carolina were attached to British troops fighting the Germans off the west coast of France. When it was discovered that the Germans were intercepting communications, the Cherokee cleverly volunteered to transmit messages in their native language. The soldiers had guessed correctly. The Germans could not translate the communications. This tactic proved so effective that it was reused during World War II.

It was Philip Johnston, a non-native speaker of Navajo and a World War I veteran, who suggested the use of the Navajo language as code to the Marine Corps. Johnston knew enough of the language to know that it would be indecipherable to the Japanese. The Marines quickly recruited Navajo and helped them develop a code that could be rapidly transmitted and decoded. Throughout the entirety of the war, the Navajo code talkers would gain a stellar reputation for the skill, speed, and accuracy of their code-making. The Navajo may be the most famous of the code talkers, but they were in no way alone. Native speakers of Comanche, Assiniboine, Cree, Meskwaki, Mohawk, Muscogee, and Tlingit also provided unbreakable code for U.S. forces. The Code Talkers Recognition Act of 2008 finally recognized every Native American code talker with a Congressional Gold Medal.

Smooth Sale-ing



Highway 127 runs from Addison, Michigan, to Gadsden, Alabama, and, at almost 700 miles long, it hosts the World's Longest Yard Sale from August 5–8. The 127 Yard Sale, as it

is known by locals, was invented in 1987 by a Tennessee city official named Mike Walker.

In an effort to encourage drivers to avoid interstate travel, take local scenic routes, and thereby support local businesses, Walker suggested that local residents line their front yards with goods for sale. Each year, thousands of motorists drive the route, perusing the wares for sale and catching the unique attractions found in the six participating states. Route 127 doesn't just offer the world's longest yard sale but it also provides the backdrop of what may be America's strangest (and most profitable) road trip.

Supper Calling...Handcraft Judging... Sculpture Contest... Walker Décor Contest...SNACKS... it will All be happening at

Windsor Manor's version of the...

